DOCKET NO.: USYS-0119/D245:33318

Application No.: 09/164,807

Office Action Dated: January 28, 2005

PATENT REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 14-17, 19-30, and 32-33 are rejected in the office action mailed on January 28, 2005 ("office action"). Claims 12-13, 18, and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The office action is silent regarding pending claim 34.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the office action's recognition of allowed subject matter. Accordingly and as shown in the claim amendments, Applicant has canceled the rejected claims and claim 34 without prejudice and will file a continuation application regarding the subject matter of the cancelled claims. Applicant additionally has re-written the claims to which the office action objects, namely claims 12-13, 18, and 31, in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12-13, 18, and 31 are in condition for allowance and requests an early notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 28, 2005

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